Integrated Resource Plan

NORDEGG-RED DEER RIVER

Sub-Regional Plan

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT POLICY

1982

EDMONTON

Alberta
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Resource Evaluation and Planning Division

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PLANNING TEAM DECISION SHEET

TEAM Nordegg-Red Deer River NUMBER 3

TO Resource Integration Committee DATE August 9, 1982

ITEM

Resource Management Policy

DECISION/REQUEST

Approval of document. Direction to proceed with the Design Alternatives step of the planning process.

SIGNATURES

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Energy & Natural Resources

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COMMENTS

RESOURCE INTEGRATION COMMITTEE
DECISION SHEET

DATE August 10, 1982

TO: Nordegg-Red Deer River Planning Team

ITEM

Resource Management Policy

BACKGROUND/ATTACHMENTS

The Terms of Reference document was approved by the Resource Integration Committee in January, 1982. Selection of policy direction occurred in July, 1982. Approval of the Resource Management Policy is required for the planning team to proceed with the next steps of the planning process. John Brownlee attended the meeting and responded to the Committee's inquiries.

DECISION/DIRECTION/RECOMMENDATION

The Committee, subject to the revisions indicated to John Brownlee at the August 10, 1982 meeting, approves the Resource Management Policy. The team is to proceed with the remaining steps of the planning process.

SIGNATURES

, Chairman

COMMENTS

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1. INTRODUCTION

A Policy for Resource Management of the Eastern Slopes (Eastern Slopes Policy), approved by Cabinet in July, 1977, identified integrated management planning as the means for effective management of the resources of the Eastern Slopes region of Alberta. More specifically, the Eastern Slopes Policy established that comprehensive planning will allocate land uses for specific portions of designated planning areas. The Resource Planning Branch of Alberta Energy and Natural Resources coordinates the preparation of Integrated Resource Plans; resource management agencies with responsibilities for the public lands and resources within the planning area, and agencies affected by planning decisions, appoint team members to represent the various resource interests.

In January, 1978, the Energy and Natural Resources/Recreation and Parks Assistant Deputy Ministers' Committee, acting upon a request from the Alberta Forest Service, identified the Rocky-Clearwater region as a priority for integrated management planning. In response to this directive, an intermediate level of planning, the Rocky-Clearwater Management Overview was initiated in April, 1978. Upon completion, it was approved by the Resource Integration Committee in May, 1980. The Rocky-Clearwater Management Overview provided a framework for integrated management planning in the

Rocky-Clearwater region and established priorities for the completion of plans for the four components within the Rocky-Clearwater region. The Brazeau-Pembina plan, identified as the first priority within the region, was initiated in 1979. The second priority, the Rocky-North Saskatchewan plan, was initiated in 1980.

The remaining two components of the Rocky-Clearwater region, known as Chungo-Cline-Nordegg and Ram-Clearwater, and a component from the Bow/Crow Forest, known as Red Deer-James, were combined into one plan--the Nordegg-Red Deer River Sub-Regional Plan. The Nordegg-Red Deer River plan was formally initiated in 1981, at the request of the Deputy Minister of Renewable Resources.

Three documents are generally provided to the public before a final plan. These are Terms of Reference, the plan's Resource Management Policy and a draft plan.

The Terms of Reference document for this planning exercise was developed by an interdepartmental planning team and approved by the Resource Integration Committee in January, 1982. The Terms of Reference described the planning area, the policy and planning context, the purpose and intents of the plan, resource management concerns, data collection responsibilities, the decision making process, the composition of the planning team and a generalized schedule of activities.

This document and associated maps constitute the Resource Management Policy for the Nordegg-Red Deer River plan. The organization of the document is as follows: a general description of the planning area and its boundaries, the policy and planning context, the plan is policy formulation process, the broad resource management objectives for the planning area and a discussion of the resource management policy.

The resource management policy (Section 6) includes a general description of the three map sheets which comprise the planning area, resource management objectives specific to the planning units, and a discussion of the revised zoning. Completion of the policy formulation step (with this document) does not preclude further zoning revisions in the next steps of the planning process, i.e., further examination of information and objectives may indicate the need for additional refinements to the zone boundaries.

The Resource Management Policy is an intermediate document in the planning process. Establishing a refined direction for the planning team, this document also acts as an interim statement of the progress made towards the final plan.

2. THE PLANNING AREA

The Nordegg-Red Deer River planning area is a 10 250 km^2 tract of land in west-central Alberta, west of Rocky Mountain House and Sundre (Figure 1). The planning area is located within the Eastern Slopes region. It encompasses portions of the Brazeau, Blackstone, Cline, Upper North Saskatchewan, Ram, Clearwater, James and Red Deer River watersheds. The planning area comprises forest management units R6, R8, R9 and part of R3 in the Rocky/Clearwater Forest and forest management unit B6 and part of B02 in the Bow/Crow Forest.

The Nordegg-Red Deer River planning area is bounded by Banff National Park, Jasper National Park, White Goat Wilderness Area and Siffleur Wilderness Area on the west and south-west. The planning area is bound on the north-west by Edson forest management unit E11 and on the north-east by the Brazeau-Pembina and Rocky-North Saskatchewan Sub-Regional Plans. The eastern boundary corresponds to the eastern edge of the Eastern Slopes region. The southern boundary is shared with the Ghost River Sub-Regional Plan (Figure 1).

The planning area is divided into three map sheets: Red Deer-James, Ram-Clearwater, and Chungo-Cline-Nordegg (Figure 1).

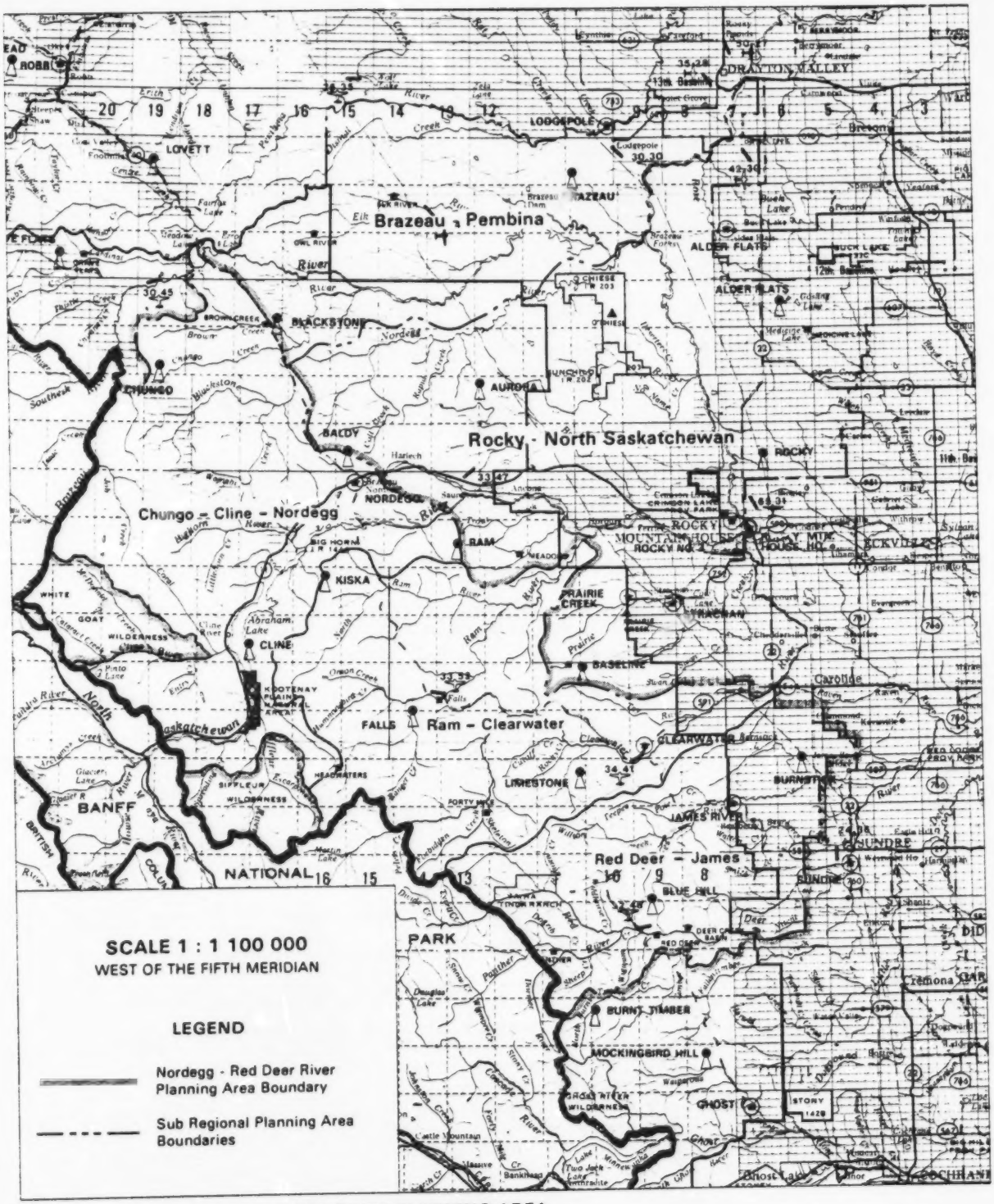
Brazeau - Pembina
Rocky - North Saskatchewan
Chungo - Cline - Nordegg
Ram - Clearwater
Red Deer - James
SCALE 1 : 1 100 000
WEST OF THE FIFTH MERIDIAN
LEGEND
Nordegg - Red Deer River Planning Area Boundary
Sub Regional Planning Area Boundaries

FIGURE 1. NORDEGG - RED DEER RIVER PLANNING AREA

3. POLICY AND PLANNING CONTEXT

Numerous government directives must be considered while developing an Integrated Resource Plan. The most significant of these directions to the Nordegg-Red Deer River plan are discussed.

The vast majority of the planning area is within the Green Area and the Eastern Slopes region. A Coal Development Policy for Alberta applies to the entire planning area. The northern two map sheets of the planning area are covered by the Rocky-Clearwater Management Overview. Approximately forty percent of the planning area is within the Brazeau Timber Development Area. Also, approximately half of the area is presently specifically classified under "Commercial Trail Riding Regulations".

3.1 Green Area/White Area Designations

The Green Area, originally established in 1948, defines the general extent of lands withdrawn from permanent settlement.

3.2 A Coal Development Policy for Alberta

A Coal Development Policy for Alberta, released in 1976, categorizes the extent to which land may be explored and developed. The western mountainous portion of the planning area is Category 1 in which no exploration or commercial development will be permitted. Category 2 covers most of the eastern half of the study area where limited coal exploration is permitted under strict controls and commercial development is generally restricted to underground or in-situ mining. A small portion of the Nordegg-Red Deer River planning area

is classified as Category 3 where coal exploration is permitted under the normal approval procedures but where commercial development is restricted.

The Coal Policy is currently being reviewed and the categorization of lands for coal exploration and development may change. The Nordegg-Red Deer River plan will incorporate these changes as required.

3.3 A Policy for Resource Management of the Eastern Slopes

A Policy for Resource Management of the Eastern Slopes (1977) provides guidelines and objectives for integrated resource management and planning for the entire Eastern Slopes region including the Nordegg-Red Deer River planning area. The Eastern Slopes Policy relies on regional land use zoning to designate large areas of land for varying degrees of protection, resource management and development. Table 1 lists the general intent for each of the following eight land use zones: (1) Prime Protection, (2) Critical Wildlife, (3) Special Use, (4) General Recreation, (5) Multiple Use, (6) Agriculture, (7) Industrial and (8) Facility. The overriding principle for all the zones under A Policy for Resource Management of the Eastern Slopes is to protect the valuable water resources of the Eastern Slopes and to provide for resource utilization in a manner consistent with principles of conservation and environmental protection. Table 2 defines a range of permitted activities to enact the intent of the eight land use zones. This zoning does not apply to privately owned lands within the planning area.

TABLE 1

PLANNING TEAM INTERPRETATION OF THE
INTENTS OF THE EASTERN SLOPES POLICY ZONES

#	Zone	INTENT OF THE ZONE[1]
1	Prime Protection	To preserve environmentally sensitive terrain and valuable aesthetic resources.
2	Critical Wildlife	To protect specific fish and wildlife populations by protecting aquatic and terrestrial habitat that is essential to the maintenance of those populations.
3	Special Use	To recognize historical resources, scientific research areas and lands which have unique management requirements or legislative status or which can not be accomodated elsewhere.
4	General Recreation	To retain a variety of natural environments to serve as a focus for a wide range of outdoor recreational activities.
5	Multiple Use	To provide for the management and development of the full range of available resources, while meeting long term objectives for watershed management and environmental protection.
6	Agriculture	To designate lands which are presently utilized or are considered suitable for cultivation or improved grazing.
7	Industrial	To recognize existing or approved industrial operations.
8	Facility	To recognize existing or approved settlement and commercial development areas.

1. The concept of integrated resource management applies to each of the eight zones.

Table 1. Planning Team Interpretation of the Intents of the Eastern Slopes Policy zones.

TABLE OF PERMITTED ACTIVITIES BY LAND USE ZONE

ACTIVITY / ZONE	1 Prime Protection	2 Critical Wildlife	3 Special Use	4 General Recreation	5 Multiple use	6 Agriculture	7 Industrial	8 Facility
Non-Mechanical Recreation	/	/	R	/	/	/	R	/
Fishing	/	/	R	/	/	/	R	/
Hunting	/	/	R	R	/	/	R	X
Non-Motorized Trails	R	R	R	/	/	/	R	/
Off Highway Vehicle Activity	X	R	R	R	/	/	/	/
Primitive Camping	R	R	R	/	/	/	X	X
Serviced Camping	X	X	R	/	/	R	X	/
Intensive Recreation	R	X	R	/	/	X	X	/
Scientific Study	/	R	R	R	/	/	/	/
Trapping	/	R	R	R	/	/	X	X
Logging	X	R	R	R	/	/	/	R
Cultivation	X	X	R	X	R	/	X	R
Domestic Grazing	X	R	R	R	/	/	X	R
Petroleum and Natural Gas Exploration & Development	X	R	R	R	/	/	/	R
Mineral Exploration & Development	X	R	R	X	/	/	/	X
Coal Exploration & Development	X	R	R	R	/	/	/	X
Transportation & Utility Corridors	R	R	R	R	/	/	/	/
Commercial Development	X	X	R	R	R	R	X	/
Industrial Development	X	X	R	X	/	R	/	R
Residential	X	X	R	X	R	/	R	/

/ Permitted Uses - Uses that will be allowed under normal guidelines and land use regulations.

X Not Permitted - Uses that are not compatible with the intent or capabilities of a land use zone.

R Restricted - Uses that may be compatible under certain circumstances and stricter than normal controls.

Table 2. Table of Permitted Activities by Land Use Zone.

The Eastern Slopes Policy has been under administrative review since 1981. The review has resulted in a proposed restructuring of the text. Provincial goals for the various resource sectors were developed to provide the broad framework for developing more detailed resource objectives at a regional level. The provincial goals shown in Table 3 are those that are directly relevant to the Eastern Slopes and apply only to public lands and resources. As the Eastern Slopes is a very large area and one which is important to the province in terms of social, economic and environmental aspects, the achievement of many of these goals in this region is important to the province as a whole. The Resource Integration Committee has tentatively approved these goals and objectives.

Many of the goals and objectives are competing for limited resources and lands. Not all of these goals and objectives are expected to be met in all locations or at the same time.

The goals and objectives in Table 3 relate to the natural resources present in the Eastern Slopes region. The order in which they are presented does not indicate any priority, although the Eastern Slopes Policy does recognize that watershed management has the highest priority in the region.

Parallel to this review, four changes from "not permitted" to "restricted" have been made to the "Table of Permitted Activities" (Table 2) - logging in the Facility Zone, mineral exploration and development in the Critical Wildlife Zone, and domestic grazing and petroleum and natural gas exploration and development in the General Recreation Zone. The first two changes have been approved by the Resource Integration Committee, subject to Cabinet ratification. The two changes to the General Recreation Zone activities, resulting from Cabinet decisions, were announced by the Associate Minister of Public Lands and Wildlife in May 1982.

TABLE 3

PROPOSED PROVINCIAL GOALS AND REGIONAL OBJECTIVES

Resource Values	Provincial Goals	Regional Objectives
Watershed	To ensure a continuous reliable supply of clean water to meet the needs of Albertans and interprovincial users now and in the future.	To manage and develop natural resources in the region to maintain or increase the volume of water yield and the natural timing of surface and sub-surface discharge. To manage headwaters in the region to maintain the recharge capabilities and protect critical fisheries habitat. To manage the South Saskatchewan River watersheds intensively to meet a high demand for water stability. To manage the North Saskatchewan and Athabasca River watersheds in order to provide for future increase in water yield through intensive management to maintain natural flow.
Wildlife	To optimize the opportunities for the public to interact with the wildlife resources in a positive manner.	Big Game: Elk (Wapiti) - To ensure elk populations are maintained throughout the region in accordance with habitat availability. This will allow for an increase in elk populations substantially north of the Bow River and a regional goal of 30 000 elk allowing for a supply sufficient for the growing demand into the next few decades. Moose - To increase the moose population to the carrying capacity of known habitat, particularly in the easterly portions of the region. Emphasis should be placed in the southern area due both to the high hunting demands as well as the opportunity of achieving higher population associated with forest management areas. Deer - While-tailed -- To maintain a minimum of 10 000 along the eastern fringe of the region. - Mule -- To increase the mule deer population throughout the region to a minimum of 50 000 head with half of the objective being achieved south of the Bow River. Caribou - To stabilize and increase declining caribou populations throughout the region to a level where species preservation in Alberta is assured through protection and proper management of current and historically important range. The desired increases in population along the Eastern Slopes are at least 2000 to 3000 animals. Bighorn Sheep - To maintain existing populations of approximately 5000 bighorn sheep through protection and enhancement of known critical winter ranges scattered throughout the region. Mountain Goats - To ensure a recovery of mountain goat populations through protection and management of known habitat scattered throughout the sub-alpine and alpine areas. Bear - Black -- To maintain the existing population of black bears by retaining a minimum of 30 percent forest cover over the region. - Grizzly -- To maintain and protect existing grizzly populations and habitat particularly north of the Bow River. Populations of 400 north of the Bow River and 100 South of it would meet demands for this century.

TABLE 3

PROPOSED PROVINCIAL GOALS AND REGIONAL OBJECTIVES
(continued)

Resource Values	Provincial Goals	Regional Objectives
Wildlife		Furbearers: To maintain the variety and abundance of furbearer populations through management of habitat in the region. Upland Game: To maintain the existing population of upland game bird species through habitat management in the region. Raptors: To maintain the existing populations of raptor species through mitigation of disturbances to known populations and critical habitat in the region. Songbirds: To maintain the existing variety and distribution of songbirds found in the region. Threatened Species: To protect and enhance the populations of known threatened species such as cougar and wolverine to a level of self-maintenance through mitigation of disturbances to known populations and critical habitat.
Fisheries	To provide the optimum mix of social and economic benefits consistent with the maintenance of healthy fish communities.	To protect aquatic habitat and ensure high water quality in the region. To establish optimum instream flow requirements for fish through modification of land/water use practices. To recognize the sport fishery as the principle use of the fishery resources in the Eastern Slopes. To maintain naturally reproducing Salmonid (trout, char and whitefish) populations in the region and to expand these fish resources into presently vacant aquatic habitat. To supplement or enhance game fish stocks in the region by stocking when natural reproduction does not occur or is limited.
Recreation	To provide and facilitate the provision of a range of outdoor recreation opportunities in Alberta.	Camping: Parks - To maintain a diverse range of medium-size resource based recreation developments such as Provincial Parks and Forest Recreation Areas within weekend driving range of most of the population to facilitate a foothills and sub-alpine recreational experience.

TABLE 3

PROPOSED PROVINCIAL GOALS AND REGIONAL OBJECTIVES
(continued)

Resource Values	Provincial Goals	Regional Objectives
Recreation		Auto Access - To increase the number of formalized intensive camping opportunities by expanding existing facilities in areas north of the Canmore Corridor. Group Camping - To increase group camping facilities throughout the Eastern Slopes. Remote Camping - To increase the number of camping sites accessible by hiking, horse and off-highway vehicles. Trails: Land Based - To increase the number of kilometres of long distance trails in the region for hiking, skiing, horse and off-highway vehicle use. Water Based - To designate and manage water based trails to provide opportunities for a variety of activities such as canoeing, power boating, kayaking and rafting. Day Use: To maintain existing extensive style day use sites, e.g. rest stops, picnic areas and viewing points, in the Grande Prairie, Edson and Rocky/Clearwater Forests. Visitor Services: To increase the number of self-guiding historical and resource management oriented trails at existing destination camping facilities. To increase the preservation of representative and unique features of natural and/or cultural significance for interpretation, education and appreciation throughout the Eastern Slopes region and particularly in the alpine and sub-alpine ecological region. Wilderness: To maintain within the Eastern Slopes, areas of wilderness or primitive character. Water Access Points: To develop and manage a range of facilities and services to provide access to various water bodies throughout the region.
Forestry	To provide an optimum continuous contribution to the economy by the forest-based industries consistent with sound environmental practices and to recognize other uses of the forest.	Bow/Crow Forest: Crowsnest Portion - To maintain a sustained yield timber supply to established sawmilling facilities and for local public use. - To increase the sustained yield timber supply available to Quota Holders and the general public through an expanded permanent forest land base consistent with optimal forest land allocation.

TABLE 3

PROPOSED PROVINCIAL GOALS AND REGIONAL OBJECTIVES
(continued)

Resource Values	Provincial Goals	Regional Objectives
Forestry		- To ensure a healthy forest environment in this prime recretional area and provide a reasonable supply to timber on a sustained yield basis to wood utilizing facilities and the general public on a short term commitment basis. The high standard of harvest operations will ensure maintenance of aesthetics and a quality environment for the prime use of recreation. Northern Bow Portion (Ghost, Little Red Deer and Burnt Timber River Areas) - To maintain a sustained yield timber supply to established wood utilizing facilities and for local public use. - To increase the sustained yield timber supply available to Timber Quota Holders and/or Forest Management Agreement holders and the general public through an expanded permanent forest land base consistent with optimal forest land allocation. Rocky/Clearwater Forest, Edson Forest, and Grande Prairie Forest - To maintain a sustained yield timber supply to the established wood utilizing facilities and for local public use and increase the sustained yield timber supply available to Timber Quota Holders and/or Forest Management Agreement Holders and for local use consistent with optimal forest land use allocation.
Rangeland	To provide a properly managed forage base of the rangelands for use by wildlife and domestic livestock in conjunction with other land uses.	To maintain rangelands in good condition through sound range management practices and coordination of the management of rangeland resources with other users. To increase rangelands where forage productivity has declined from the encroachment of unproductive bush species by removal of the brush and establishing productive forage species. To increase and improve rangeland availability and capability through more intensive range management. To consider other land uses besides wildlife and domestic grazing in the management of the rangelands.
Agriculture	To encourage the optimal development of the renewable resources for production, processing and marketing of agricultural products for an expanding domestic and export market.	To ensure the continued viability of existing livestock operations in the region through the use of public lands to sustain the current levels of domestic livestock numbers. To provide for the cultivation of lands that are suitable for production of annual and forage crops. To expand domestic livestock grazing opportunities on public lands in that part of the region north of the Trans-Canada Highway to counterbalance the conversion of other lands in the province to cereal and oilseed production.

TABLE 3

PROPOSED PROVINCIAL GOALS AND REGIONAL OBJECTIVES
(continued)

Resource Values	Provincial Goals	Regional Objectives
Tourism	To encourage the provision of a diverse range of private and public sector tourism facilities, attractions, accommodation types and services capable of meeting increasing demands for leisure and business-related opportunities.	To encourage the provision of a wide variety of tourism opportunities and services in the Eastern Slopes. To encourage the development of tourism opportunities and services capable of operation on a year-round basis. To ensure the maintenance of the environmental quality and aesthetics of the Eastern Slopes, while expanding tourism opportunities in the area through: - Grouping tourism facilities and services where feasible (recognizing the need for unique siting and scenic requirements of particular types of facilities. - Ensuring the careful design of facilities to limit environmental impact; and - Encouraging environmentally conscious operation of facilities and services after their completion. To ensure the provision of an adequate land base for tourism activities by maintaining the high aesthetic quality and thus maintaining the value of the tourism experience. To support the provision of tourism opportunities and services by the private sector wherever feasible and to minimize the occurrence of public sector competition with private sector developments for specific tourism markets.
Non-Renewable Resources	To encourage exploration and development of mineral resources to meet the needs of Albertans now and in the future.	Coal: To maintain income and job benefits from coal resources in the Eastern Slopes through basin-by-basin development, with each basin being developed to minimize infrastructure costs. Oil and Natural Gas: To maintain income and job benefits from oil and natural gas resources throughout the region. Quarriable and Metallic Minerals: To maintain income and job benefits from quarriable and metallic mineral resources in the region. Aggregate Resources: To maintain the present and future availability of aggregate resources in the region.
Archaeological/ Ecological/ Historical Resources	To ensure that significant features of archaeological, ecological or historical value are identified, protected and managed for scientific, educational and recreational benefits now and in the future.	To protect both representative and unique areas of natural or cultural provincial significance for the recreational, scientific and educational use of Albertans.

3.4 Rocky-Clearwater Management Overview

The Rocky-Clearwater Management Overview (1980) establishes the development strategy for the Chungo-Cline-Nordegg and Ram-Clearwater map sheets as having a recreation emphasis. The report strongly recommends the enhancement of extensive, non-mechanized recreation opportunities in these two portions of the Nordegg-Red Deer River planning area. It also notes that "considerable resource utilization activity can take place in the portions outside the Prime Protection Zone and General Recreation Zone without compromising the general intent for a recreation emphasis" (p. 40) in the area. The Rocky-Clearwater Management Overview also notes that Brazeau-Pembina and Rocky-North Saskatchewan planning areas "are capable of supporting more intensive recreation than should I.M.P. Priority Areas III and IV" (p. 21), i.e., Chungo-Cline-Nordegg and Ram-Clearwater map sheets of the Nordegg-Red Deer River planning area.

In general, the Rocky-Clearwater Management Overview provides significant policy direction related to priorities of renewable and non-renewable resource development; settlement; access; trails and off-highway vehicles; fish and wildlife habitat; and ecological resources.

3.5 Brazeau Timber Development Area

The Government of Alberta advertised the 10 000 km^2 Brazeau Timber Development Area (Figure 2) in 1981. Subsequent proposals for

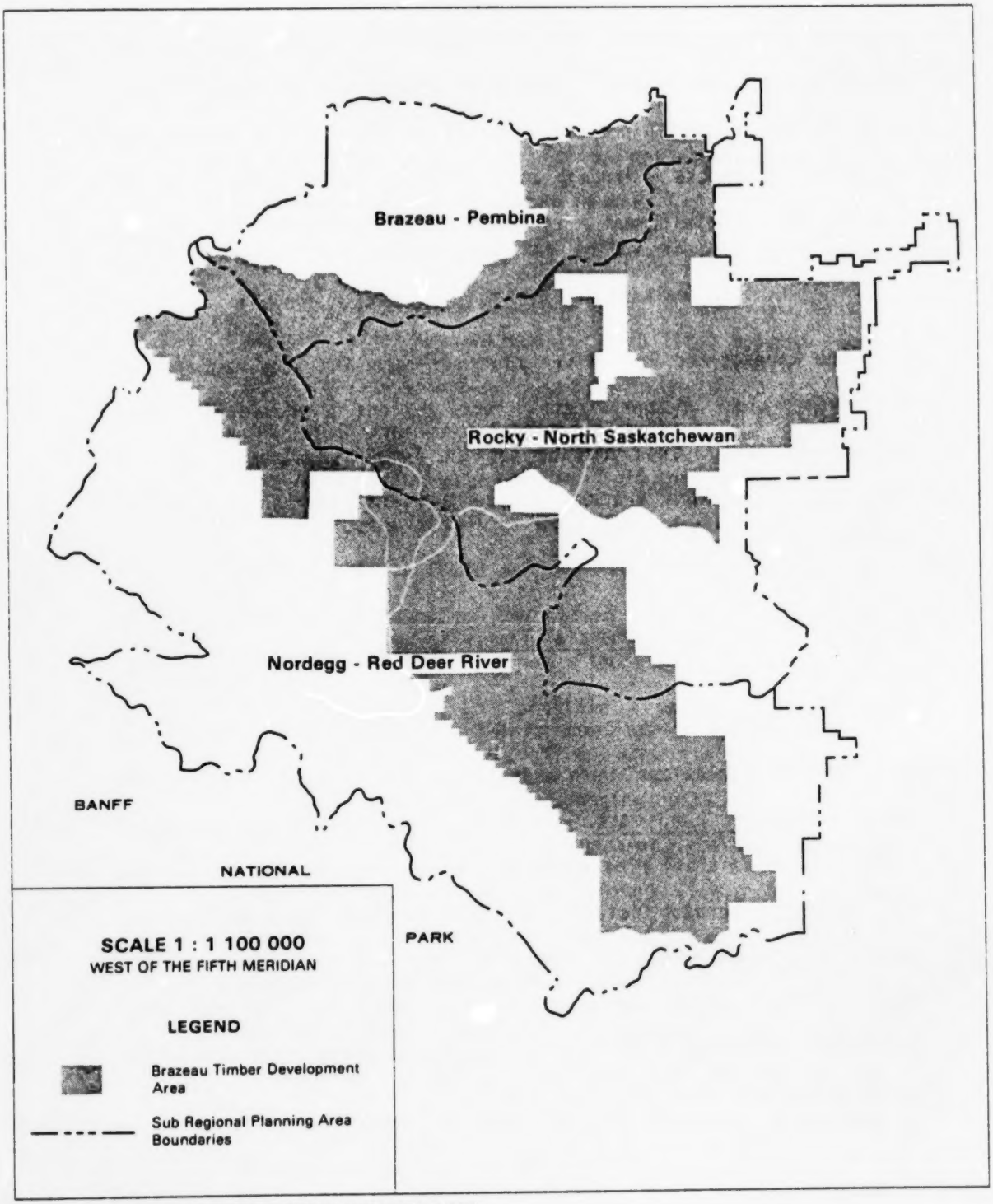

FIGURE 2. BRAZEAU TIMBER DEVELOPMENT AREA

developing this substantial area of uncommitted timber resources are currently being considered. Companies bidding on the timber rights were invited to submit proposals (by June 1982) for the entire area or one of two blocks - Nordegg and O'Chiese. Public hearings on the Brazeau Timber Development Area proposals are scheduled for August, 1982.

The Nordegg-Red Deer River plan overlaps with the majority of the Nordegg block or approximately forty percent of the entire Timber Development Area. The remainder of the Timber Development Area is contained within the Brazeau-Pembina and Rocky-North Saskatchewan Sub-Regional Plans.

3.6 Commercial Trail Riding Policy

As an outcome of the Commercial Trail Riding Policy, "Commercial Trail Riding Regulations" were established for the Green Area in 1979 under the Public Lands Act. In part, these regulations establish three classes of trail ride management areas: single operator (class I), multiple operator (class II), and multiple operator day use (class III). The class III areas are the most restricted because they are heavily used and environmentally sensitive. Of the areas presently classified under this policy, the majority occur within the Nordegg-Red Deer River planning area.

4. PLAN POLICY FORMULATION PROCESS

The process of formulating policy for the Nordegg-Red Deer River plan generally proceeded in the following manner:

(i) the planning area and the policy context were established (Terms of Reference and Section 3);

(ii) the available data related to capability, present use, potential and demand were synthesized;

(iii) the broad resource management objectives for the planning area were stated (Section 5 of this document);

(iv) to allow the planning team and resource management agency staff to focus on a smaller tract of land than an entire map sheet or the entire planning area, twelve planning units were defined (Figure 3 and Table 4);

(v) more specific, if possible, spatially-determined resource management objectives were stated (tables in Section 6) for each of the planning units;

(vi) the spatial objectives were compared, residual areas of potential conflict were delineated (i.e., overlap of proposed spatial objectives) and the proposed zoning was compared to the 1977 Eastern Slopes zoning;

(vii) available data, additional information, the proposed objectives and policy direction were applied to the residual areas to complete the resource management policy zoning.

FIGURE 3. PLANNING UNITS

TABLE 4

NORDEGG-RED DEER RIVER

PLANNING UNITS

Map Sheet	Planning Unit #	Name of Planning Unit
Red Deer-James	1	Red Deer Mountains
	2	Red Deer-James Foothills
	3	Red Deer-James Benchlands
Ram-Clearwater	4	Clearwater-Tay Plain-Benchlands
	5	Ram-Clearwater Foothills-Benchlands
	6	Ram-Clearwater Mountains
Chungo-Cline-	7	Whiterabbit Mountains
Nordegg	8	Saskatchewan Mountains-Montane
	9	Cline-Job-Coral Mountains
	10	Bighorn Mountains
	11	Saskatchewan-Shunda Foothills
	12	Chungo-Wapiabi Foothills-Mountains

Table 4. Nordegg-Red Deer River Planning Units.

5. BROAD RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

The following objectives have been submitted by the agencies with participative or consultative representation on the planning team. These have been reorganized by resource topic. The sequence of the listing does not imply a priority to the resource components or their objectives. These objectives generally apply to all of the planning units discussed in Section 6.

5.1 Water and Watershed Resources

- To protect land subject to erosion.
- To protect the watershed.
- To preserve the inherent productivity of the land through soil conservation practices.
- To manage watershed resources for streamflow and water quality for on-site and downstream uses.
- To manage the land and vegetation to maintain existing flows in the North Saskatchewan drainage basin.
- To manage the land and vegetation to encourage increased water flows in the Red Deer drainage basin.
- To maintain existing watershed yield characteristics for each planning unit in terms of runoff quantity, quality, and timing. (An increase in net yield through vegetative manipulation would be favorable only where hydro-electric power generation, flood prevention, water quality and other downstream water management factors are not compromised.)
- To maintain a reliable supply of clean water within the planning area and downstream.
- To maintain the long-term integrity of natural watercourses free from channel degradation.
- To maintain the water quality of high mountain and other lakes within the planning area.
- To recognize the potential for hydro-electric development and hazard land character of portions of the Red Deer, James, North Saskatchewan and Brazeau Rivers within the planning area.

5.2 Recreation Resources

- To provide resource oriented, extensive and intensive recreation opportunities including camping, day-use, trails, water routes, and interpretive programs in wildland and high quality natural settings.
- To maintain and/or increase opportunities for recreational use of fisheries resources.
- To maintain and/or increase opportunities for recreational use of wildlife resources.
- To develop and provide a broad range of recreation and leisure opportunities and facilities to serve the needs of central Alberta.
- To protect areas with high recreation potential and capability.
- To ensure that land management provides adequate access for the existing informal and formal recreation groups.

5.3 Tourism Resources

- To encourage the provision of a wide variety of tourism opportunities and services in the planning area to meet the needs of resident and non-resident visitors.
- To encourage the development of tourism opportunities and services capable of operation on a year-round basis.
- To ensure the maintenance of the environmental quality and aesthetics of the planning area while expanding tourism opportunities in the area through:
  a) grouping tourism facilities and services where feasible (recognizing the need for unique siting and scenic requirements of particular types of facilities);
  b) encouraging the careful design of facilities to limit environmental impact; and,
  c) encouraging environmentally conscious operation of facilities and services after their completion.

- To ensure the provision of an adequate land base for tourism activities, minimizing competitive or incompatible land uses that would decrease the quality or value of the tourism experience.

5.4 Ecological Resources

- To assess, preserve and manage representative and unique examples of the natural features, landscapes and ecosystems of the Foothills, Rocky Mountain and Boreal Forest Regions of Alberta in the form of Natural Areas and Ecological Reserves.
- To provide for scientific and educational use of Ecological Reserves and Natural Areas.

5.5 Historical Resources

- To protect significant historical resources including historical, archaeological and paleontological sites.
- To provide for scientific and educational use of historical resources.

5.6 Settlement Resources

- To analyze the potential for private recreation cottage development within permitted areas (Multiple Use Zone and Facility Zone), recognizing limitations and identifying the areas with the highest potential for development.
- To provide the necessary land base for settlement facilities within the planning area.
- To minimize the adverse impacts of resource development upon the orderly delivery, timing, magnitude and preferred locations of community development.

5.7 Fisheries Resources

- To maintain and/or increase natural fish populations and establish new fish populations in suitable locations.
- To maintain and/or increase the quality and quantity of aquatic habitat conducive to supporting fish populations at optimal densities. This would include:
  a) protecting habitat areas and migratory routes which are critical for the survival of specific fish populations. Habitat areas to be protected include:
     (i) spawning areas
     (ii) overwintering areas
     (iii) rearing areas;
  b) enhancing or creating fish habitat in appropriate locations.

5.8 Wildlife Resources

- To maintain and/or increase natural wildlife populations. This includes:
  a) increasing ungulate populations in all planning units (except elk in planning unit #3, Red Deer-James Benchlands, and planning unit #4, Clearwater-Tay Plain - Benchlands);
  b) To maintain or increase furbearers and furbearing carnivores (except bears and wolves in fringe agricultural areas and at high density recreation sites);
  c) To maintain, increase or reintroduce scarce and extirpated species such as fisher, river otter and peregrine falcons when stock becomes available.
- To maintain and/or increase the quality and quantity of suitable aquatic and terrestrial habitat required to support wildlife populations at optimal densities. This would include:
  a) protecting habitat areas and migratory routes which are critical for the survival of specific wildlife populations;
  b) maintaining an adequate mosaic of habitat types to ensure survival of the entire range of wildlife species found in the area;

c) enhancing or creating wildlife habitat in appropriate locations;
d) minimizing disturbance of wildlife populations during sensitive time periods.

- To minimize harassment and habitat destruction around colonial nesting sites, eyries, winter feeding areas, dens, travel corridors and mineral licks.
- To minimize competition for feed, shelter and security between wildlife and feral or domestic animals.
- To maintain or increase the existing annual production of forbes, grasses and deciduous species for utilization by wildlife.
- To maintain the existing level of commercial trapping.
- To minimize wildlife depredation problems without loss of recreational use of the problem species.
- To implement appropriate habitat improvement programs.

5.9 Timber Resources

- To provide maximum utilization of the sustainable annual allowable cut of both coniferous and deciduous wood fibre from the proposed Permanent Commercial Forest Land Base to meet existing commitments and future timber development requirements as demand warrants.
- To manage coniferous and deciduous wood fibre resources from areas outside the proposed Permanent Commercial Forest Land Base as demand warrants.
- To increase the level of productivity of wood fibre for commercial use through more intensive forest management practices.
- To manage the occurrence of fire, either natural or prescribed, to maintain or create an optimal vegetation mosaic to generate maximum benefits for all forest resource uses.
- To protect forested areas from damage and destruction by insects and diseases in order to manage for a vegetation mosaic optimal for adopted resource management objectives. This includes prompt implementation of approved salvage and sanitation

measures to harvest dead, damaged or endangered timber, both inside and outside the proposed permanent commercial forest land base.

5.10 Agricultural and Rangeland Resources

- To maintain and improve the grazing land base on public land and to increase the grazing land base, both improved and unimproved, where potential and demand exists.
- To increase the availability of public lands with agricultural potential such that they be made available for agricultural expansion.
- To manage all rangelands to maintain and, if possible, enhance the forage capacity and range condition of the area for use by wildlife, domestic livestock, etc., and for the protection of watershed values.
- To improve the level of management and utilization of the forage resources on the land base now under disposition for domestic grazing.

5.11 Mineral Resources

5.11.1 Petroleum and Natural Gas Resources

To encourage the orderly exploration and development of petroleum and natural gas resources in a manner that is compatible with environmental considerations.

To maintain the opportunity for surface access such that the private sector may develop and assess the potential of petroleum and natural gas resources.

5.11.2 Coal Resources

To provide for the orderly exploration and development of coal resources in accordance with A Coal Development Policy for Alberta (1976).

5.11.3 Metallic and Quarriable Mineral Resources

To maintain the opportunity for surface access in order that the potential of these minerals may be assessed and the resource developed.

5.11.4 Surface Materials Resources

To provide for the orderly exploration and development of surface materials, including sand, gravel, clay and marl, in a manner that is compatible with environmental considerations.

5.12 Access

- To coordinate the development of access and rights-of-way to minimize the impact on other resources in the planning area and adjacent areas (including Banff and Jasper National Parks and Siffleur and Whitegoat Wilderness Areas).

- To coordinate the development of access to minimize duplication of effort and expense and to meet the access requirements of the various resource users.

6. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT POLICY

This discussion is organized according to the planning area's three map sheets: Red Deer-James, Ram-Clearwater and Chungo-Cline-Nordegg. Each of the three subsections includes a general description of the map sheet and its planning units, a listing of resource management objectives by planning unit, and a discussion of the revised zoning. The revised Eastern Slopes zone lines are based on data accurate at a scale of 1:100 000 and related spatially determined resource management objectives supplied by the various agencies. Further zone revisions during the remainder of the planning process are likely to be more localized.

6.1 Red Deer - James Map Sheet

Red Deer-James is the most southern map sheet of the Nordegg-Red Deer River planning area. Within an overall size of approximately 2550 km^2, its main waterbodies are the James and Red Deer Rivers, their tributaries and Burnstick Lake.

The western portion of this map sheet includes the Montane, Subalpine and Alpine ecoregions; the central portion is mainly Boreal Uplands which grade into Boreal Foothills in the eastern extent of the map sheet. The western, central and eastern planning units of the map sheet roughly correspond to the mountains, foothills and benchland physiographic regions.

The numbers and labels assigned to the three planning units within the Red Deer-James map sheet are:

1. Red Deer Mountains
2. Red Deer-James Foothills, and
3. Red Deer-James Benchlands

Approximately 250 km^2 of the map sheet is patent land which is used mainly for agricultural purposes (i.e., grazing) but with significant numbers of cottages located in subdivisions mainly along the Red Deer River. The north-east corner of the map sheet contains 24 km^2 of land outside of the Eastern Slopes boundary, of which, approximately 19 km^2 are patent parcels.

The nearest towns are Sundre and Caroline, via access on Secondary Roads 584 and 922 respectively. The Forestry Trunk Road is the main "north-south" transportation route. Tourist facilities exist at Mountainaire Lodge on the Red Deer River, with a limited number of institutional camps also scattered throughout the map sheet's area.

The broad resource objectives (section 5) generally apply to all of the planning units. The resource management objectives specific to the planning units of the Red Deer-James map sheet are summarized in Table 5.1. Section 5 and Table 5.1 collectively contain the objectives which reflect the resource values present in the Red Deer-James map sheet and its component planning units.

TABLE 5.1

RED DEER-JAMES RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
(BY PLANNING UNIT)*

Resource Values	1. Red Deer Mountains	2. Red Deer-James Foothills	3. Red Deer-James Benchlands
Water and Watershed	- To minimize the surface disturbance in sensitive alpine areas. - To manage vegetation changes so that adverse changes in timing, quality and quantity of runoff are minimized.	- To regulate forest management and resource extraction activities so that adverse changes in water quality, timing and runoff are minimized. - To regulate forest management and resource extraction activities so that accelerated soil erosion is minimized. - To determine the effect of timber harvesting and silviculture practices on the quantity of runoff on a large scale.	- To regulate forest management and resource extraction activities so that accelerated soil erosion is minimized. - To regulate forest management and resource extraction activities so that adverse changes in water quality, timing and quantity are minimized.
Recreation	- To provide a high quality experience for river users while minimizing impacts on other resources. - To provide opportunities for extensive, non-motorized recreation activities and related facilities, including links to Banff National Park and the Ram-Clearwater area.	- To protect the high recreational values of the Red Deer River corridor while recognizing the importance of this area for grazing. - To provide a high quality experience for river users. - To provide opportunities for both intensive and extensive non-motorized recreation activities. - To provide for a designated motorized trail system from the southeastern portion of the unit linking to the Ghost District if the demand exists. - To provide snowmobiling opportunities that will reduce the conflicts between snowmobilers and cross-country skiers. - To ensure trail development is coordinated with the Ram/Clearwater district and to provide linkages if the demand exists.	- To protect the high recreation values of the Red Deer River corridor while recognizing the importance of this area for grazing. - To provide a high quality experience for river users. - To provide opportunities for intensive and extensive, non-motorized recreational activities. - To provide opportunities for winter recreation including snowmobiling, cross-country skiing and ice-fishing.
Wildlife	- To maintain and improve critical elk and Bighorn sheep winter ranges on Scalp Creek, Red Deer River and "Ribbon Flats". - To maintain and improve elk winter ranges on Panther River, Dormer River, "J.I. Hill", Dogrib Creek and Sheep Creek.	- To maintain and improve the non-consumptive use of ungulates in the Yara Creek-Red Deer River area by regulation of hunting and by habitat improvements. - To recover elk use of winter ranges on the Upper James River.	- To minimize black bear depredation problems at rural subdivisions without decimating the population. - To minimize harassment and habitat disturbances around the blue heron colony north of Burnstick Lake.

* Note that the broad resource management objectives found in Section 5 also apply to each planning unit.

TABLE 5.1
(continued)

Resource Values	1. Red Deer Mountains	2. Red Deer-James Foothills	3. Red Deer-James Benchlands
Wildlife (continued)	- To produce a substantial increase in elk numbers in the Sheep Creek drainage. This will include a transplant of up to 200 head if they are available. - To maintain high quality wilderness recreational hunting in the Panther Corners area. - To regulate vehicular access and preserve the wilderness wildlife features of this unit. - To relocate mountain caribou into the Scalp Creek drainage if stock becomes available. - To increase Rocky Mountain goat densities in the Red Deer River-James Pass area so that they can support recreational hunting. - To relocate problem grizzly bears into the Scalp Creek drainage. - To utilize the Panther River for relocation of problem grizzly bears when other sites are filled.	- To maintain elk population in the Limestone Mountain, Willson Creek and Teepee Pole Creek areas through habitat protection and maintenance of migratory routes. - To maintain grizzly bear populations in the upper Willson Creek, Limestone area. - To maintain and enhance moose populations throughout the unit by habitat protection. - To maintain elk populations along the James and Red Deer Rivers and Williams, Brown, Parker and South James Creeks areas. - To maintain elk and deer populations at acceptable levels in the Parker and Stafne Ridge areas. - To maintain furbearer populations in the unit.	- To maintain deer and moose populations in this unit by protection of habitat along water courses and in key wintering areas on upland sites. - To maintain furbearer populations at acceptable levels within the unit.
Fisheries	- To protect critical habitat areas which are critical for specific fish populations: a) Certain reaches of Scalp and Bighorn Creeks as well as unnamed tributaries to the Red Deer River which may possibly be used for rearing and spawning by bull trout; b) Overwintering areas for bull trout in the Panther River; c) Dormer River to support bull trout and certain reaches of Dogrib Creek to support bull trout and brook trout. - To maintain or enhance lakes with fisheries potential: a) Eagle Lake;	- To protect critical habitat areas which are critical for specific fish populations: a) Spawning and overwintering areas for bull trout and Rocky Mountain whitefish in Red Deer River; b) Spawning, rearing and overwintering areas for bull trout, brook trout and Rocky Mountain whitefish in James River and Willson Creek; c) Specific habitat areas in Wigwam, Brown and Williams Creeks, South James River, Parker Creek, Windfall Creek, Sawtooth and Bread Creeks. - To protect migratory corridors for specific fish species:	- To protect critical habitat areas which are critical for specific fish populations: a) Spawning, rearing and overwintering areas for brook trout in West Stony Creek and brook trout and brown trout in Raven River; b) Portions of the James River, East Stony Creek and Teepee Pole Creek which have not yet been fully inventoried. - To protect the Raven Brood Station by maintaining the integrity of Beaver Creek and its tributaries. - To protect the migratory corridor along the Red Deer River for Rocky Mountain whitefish and bull trout. - To maintain or enhance lakes with fisheries potential:

TABLE 5.1
(continued)

Resource Values	1. Red Deer Mountains	2. Red Deer-James Foothills	3. Red Deer-James Benchlands
Fisheries (continued)	- b) James Lake; c) Dormer Lake; d) Ice Lake; e) Unnamed Lake (Barrier Lake). - To develop new lake fisheries, thereby creating additional recreational opportunities. - To protect migratory corridors for specific fish species, specifically, along the Red Deer River. - To evaluate the feasibility of introducing cutthroat trout into the upper Red Deer River.	a) Red Deer River for Rocky Mountain whitefish and bull trout; b) James River for Rocky Mountain. whitefish. - To maintain and/or increase recreational fisheries opportunities, e.g. by developing new lakes or ponds.	a) Burnstick Lake; b) Yellowhead Lake. - To maintain and/or increase recreational fisheries opportunities assessed through additional surveys of lakes and streams in this planning unit.
Ecological Resources	- To protect representative or unique ecological resources at the following proposed locations: a) Eagle Creek; b) Scalp Creek. - To further assess ecological resources within this planning unit.	- To protect representative or unique ecological resources at the following proposed location: a) Willson Creek. - To further assess ecological resources within this planning unit.	- To further assess ecological resources within this planning unit.
Timber	- To harvest timber within the proposed Permanent Commercial Forest Land Base (PCFLB) under existing policies of sustained yield while recognizing the recreational and wildlife value of the area. - To silviculturally enhance the growth of timber in those areas which are part of the proposed PCFLB but are excluded from the Annual Allowable Cut calculations, and to harvest that timber using special techniques compatible with wildlife management objectives. - To reclaim those linear disturbances that are the government's responsibility within the Prime Protection Zone.	- To harvest timber within the proposed PCFLB for those areas included in the Annual Allowable Cut calculations under existing policies of sustained yield while recognizing the recreational value of the area. - To silviculturally enhance the growth of timber in those areas which are part of the proposed PCFLB but are excluded from the Annual Allowable Cut calculations, and to harvest that timber using special management techniques.	- To harvest timber within the proposed PCFLB under existing policies of sustained yield while recognizing the recreational value of the area. - To evaluate Crown lands outside the proposed PCFLB boundary under existing policy guidelines and designate lands to be managed for wood fibre production.

TABLE 5.1
(continued)

Resource Values	1. Red Deer Mountains	2. Red Deer-James Foothills	3. Red Deer-James Benchlands
Rangeland	- To maintain range condition and carrying capacity. - To maintain the current stocking rate within the unit. - To monitor and manage feral horse use within this unit.	- To increase the domestic livestock stocking rate through use of brush and aspen removal and the establishment of forage species to increase the carrying capacity. - To monitor and manage feral horse use within this unit.	- To increase the domestic livestock stocking rate primarily through use of brush and aspen removal to increase the carrying capacity. - To monitor and manage feral horse use within this unit. - To maintain and develop additional land base for improved grazing in those areas with recognized high and moderate potential, particularly if located adjacent to or near patent land.
Tourism	- To provide tourism opportunities through access to the Ya-Ha-Tinda Ranch and points along the Red Deer and Panther Rivers specifically for water-based recreation.	- To encourage the provision of additional tourism opportunities in the unit through: a) additional access to the Red Deer River; b) use of the Forestry Trunk Road as a touring route; c) increased commercial accommodation and visitor services.	- To encourage the opportunities for tourism services along Secondary Roads 584 and 922. - To optimize tourism potential in the vicinity of Burnstick Lake through promotion of recreational development.

6.1.1 Red Deer Mountains (Planning Unit #1)

As a general statement, the resource management intent for the Red Deer Mountains Planning Unit is:

> To protect the environmentally sensitive watershed, wildlife and ecological resources while providing the opportunity for high quality back country recreation experiences, particularly along the Red Deer and Panther Rivers.

The revised zoning is shown on Figure 4, Red Deer-James Map Sheet: Resource Management Policy. For comparison purposes, Figure 5, Red Deer-James Map Sheet: Existing Eastern Slopes Zoning (1977) is included at the same scale. (Both maps are found in the map pocket). The majority of this unit remains as Prime Protection Zone. Revisions to Prime Protection Zone boundaries were based mainly on Ecological Land Classification analysis. Subsequent refinements were made to the Critical Wildlife Zone (north, south and east of the Ya-Ha-Tinda Ranch), General Recreation Zone (Eagle Lake, Red Deer River corridor, Panther River corridor below the Sheep Creek confluence) and Multiple Use Zone (along Panther River General Recreation Zone corridor). The Special Use Zone for Ya-Ha-Tinda Ranch (Federal Crown land) remains unchanged.

6.1.2 Red Deer-James Foothills (Planning Unit #2)

The general resource management intent for the Red Deer-James Foothills Planning Unit is:

> To provide for a full range of multiple use activities regulated to prevent adverse environmental impacts on watershed, wildlife, ecological resources, and, in particular, the recreational values along the Red Deer River.

The revised zoning and existing (1977) zoning for this planning unit are shown on Figures 4 and 5 (map pocket).

The Critical Wildlife Zone has been adjusted substantially to reflect fisheries and wildlife values, particularly winter ungulate range. The Special Use Zone has been removed from the Deer Creek basin as the watershed research program is no longer active at this location. The General Recreation Zone along the Red Deer River has been refined to more appropriate physical features. Changes to the Multiple Use Zone reflect timber and grazing values and the refinements to other zones. The Facility Zone at the Red Deer River Crossing has been reduced to the area immediately around Mountainaire Lodge.

6.1.3 Red Deer-James Benchlands (Planning Unit #3)

The general resource management intent for the Red Deer-James Benchlands Planning Unit is:

> To provide for a full range of multiple use activities regulated to prevent adverse environmental impacts on watershed, fisheries and wildlife values while recognizing the recreational emphasis of Red Deer River and Burnstick Lake.

The revised zoning and existing (1977) zoning for this planning unit are also shown on Figures 4 and 5 (map pocket).

The Critical Wildlife Zone has been altered significantly to reflect current fisheries and wildlife values, e.g., replacing the General Recreation Zones that existed along West Stony Creek and Raven River. The General Recreation Zone along the Red Deer River was redrawn to follow appropriate Ecological Land Classification units. A General Recreation Zone now surrounds Burnstick Lake.

Changes to the Multiple Use Zone reflect timber and grazing values, the cumulative effect of other zone adjustments and mapping of the patent lands, a significant portion of this planning unit. All of the privately held patent land (250 km^2) within the Red Deer-James map sheet occurs in this unit.

Most of the Agriculture Zone parcels in the existing Eastern Slopes zoning (Figure 5) are patent land (Figure 4). The parcels presently zoned as Agriculture, for improved grazing, will not be alienated from the Crown without a clear shift in public lands policy (as stated in the Eastern Slopes Policy, p. 4).

The only Industrial Zone (36 in 34-6-W5) shown in 1977 has been replaced by Multiple Use Zone as the facility present in that parcel is not significant. An Industrial Zone (40 acres or approximately 0.16 km^2) has been added (LSD1 of SE11 in 35-6-W5) to designate a large capacity gas plant. Certain lands have been identified as having potential for agricultural use. If not required for timber production, these lands may be considered for agricultural purposes.

The Facility Zones along the Red Deer River have been removed as all of the cottage subdivisions present along the river are located on patent land. A Facility Zone has been retained on the Burnstick Lake cottage subdivision as some of the lots are patent and some are leased from the Crown. (The majority of the Burnstick Lake Facility Zone was replaced by General Recreation Zone to reflect the future proposals for the lake.)

6.2 Ram-Clearwater Map Sheet

Ram-Clearwater, the central map sheet of the Nordegg-Red Deer River planning area, is approximately 3620 km^2 in size. Its major waterbodies are the Clearwater, Ram, North Ram, and Tay Rivers and their tributaries.

The most westerly planning unit (#6) of this map sheet consists of Alpine and Subalpine ecoregion components, with intrusions of Boreal Uplands along the major river corridors. The central planning unit (#5) consists mainly of Boreal Uplands, with a significant Subalpine component, e.g., Kiska Tower, Limestone Mountain areas. The eastern planning unit (#4) of this map sheet is within the Boreal Foothills ecoregion and, generally north of the Clearwater River valley, the Boreal Uplands ecoregion.

The three planning units located within the Ram-Clearwater map sheet are numbered and labelled as:

4. Clearwater - Tay Plain Benchlands
5. Ram-Clearwater Foothills - Benchlands, and
6. Ram-Clearwater Mountains

The patent parcels (approximately 30 km^2) of this map sheet are used for agricultural and recreational purposes, including a limited number of cottage subdivisions on the Clearwater and Tay Rivers. The eastern tip of the map sheet includes a 7 km^2 tract of land, of which approximately 4 km^2 are patent parcels outside of the Eastern Slopes boundary.

Caroline is the nearest town, with access along Highway 54 and Secondary Road 591. Secondary Road 752 provides the most direct access to this area from Rocky Mountain House. The Forestry Trunk Road traverses the map sheet from the southeast to northwest. Limited service facilities exist at Ricinus and Boundary Service, adjacent to Secondary Road 591.

The broad resource objectives listed in section 5 generally apply to all of the planning units. The resource management objectives specific to the planning units of the Ram-Clearwater map sheet are summarized in Table 5.2. Collectively, section 5 and Table 5.2 contain the objectives which reflect the resource values present in this map sheet and its component planning units.

6.2.1 Clearwater-Tay Plain-Benchlands (Planning Unit #4)

The general management intent for the Clearwater-Tay Plain-Benchlands Planning Unit is:

> To provide for a full range of multiple use activities regulated to prevent adverse environmental impacts on watershed, wildlife, fisheries and ecological resources.

The revised zoning is shown on Figure 6, Ram-Clearwater Map Sheet: Resource Management Policy. For comparison, Figure 7, Ram-Clearwater Map Sheet: Existing Eastern Slopes Zones (1977) is included at the same scale. Both maps are located in the map pocket.

TABLE 5.2

RAM-CLEARWATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
(BY PLANNING UNIT)*

Resource Values	4. Clearwater-Tay Plain-Benchlands	5. Ram-Clearwater Foothills-Benchlands	6. Ram-Clearwater Mountains
Water and Watershed	- To reduce or eliminate negative impacts to water quality from activities on private lands. - To ensure that future developments (i.e., cottage developments and sewage disposal) do not result in water quality deterioration. - To ensure that common rights-of-way and existing access are utilized wherever possible. - To monitor the effects of land use activities on water quality, quantity and timing and providing corrective action where these values are impaired.	- To manage off highway vehicle use in manner that will minimize terrain damage and water quality deterioration. - To maintain quality in this unit, which has a moderate to high sensitivity by: a) Minimizing disturbance in areas identified as having a high erosion potential, and restricting summer access in areas of poor soil drainage; b) Minimizing stream crossings and utilizing existing access where possible; c) Planning, construction and maintenance of roads and other disturbances in a manner that minimizes negative impacts on water quality; d) Managing forest harvesting, where feasible, in a manner that will maintain water yields; e) Monitoring effects of land use activities on water quality, quantity and timing to provide corrective action where these values are impaired.	- To maintain the current high water yield and high water quality of this important watershed area. - To manage recreation use and methods of access (specifically, off highway vehicle) to reduce impacts on water quality.
Recreation	- To provide adequate opportunities for outdoor recreation for existing and future demands with the main emphasis on the Clearwater River/ Secondary Road 591 corridor. - To restrict commercial recreation operations/recreation subdivisions to areas outside the Green Area or to lands with marginal public recreation use.	- To provide and manage the variety of existing and potential outdoor recreation opportunities available in this unit with emphasis on: a) Forestry Trunk Road and adjacent recreation facilities; b) The variety of traversing opportunities available in the southern extent of this unit along the major valleys.	- To provide and manage non-motorized back-country recreation opportunities in this high priority unit for both public and commercial users in cooperation with Banff National Park.

* Note that the broad resource management objectives found in Section 5 also apply to each planning unit.

TABLE 5.2
(continued)

Resource Values	4. Clearwater-Tay Plain-Benchlands	5. Ram-Clearwater Foothills-Benchlands	6. Ram-Clearwater Mountains
Wildlife	- To maintain moose, deer and furbearer populations at acceptable levels through protection and retention of key riparian communities. - To minimize depredation of private lands by problem wildlife while not decimating populations.	- To maintain the Bighorn sheep herd at Ram Falls for non-consumptive users. - To maintain suitable Harlequin duck habitat along the streams. - To improve critical elk winter ranges on Limestone Mountain, Cutoff Creek, Clearwater River, South Ram River, Ram and North Ram Rivers. - To relocate problem grizzly bears into the Kiska Creek area. - To maintain moose , deer and grizzly bear populations in the Limestone Mountain area. - To minimize competitive grazing by feral horses in the Limestone Mountain area through population management. - To examine the potential to relocate portions of the trunk road in the Seven Mile/Idlewilde Flats areas.	- To retain the wilderness character and species of this unit by regulating vehicle access. - To relocate problem grizzly bears into this unit. - To maintain and improve critical elk winter ranges on Forbidden Creek, Skeleton Creek, Clearwater River, Ranger Creek, Onion Creek and Ram River. - To increase the Rocky Mountain goat populations at Condor Peak and Timber Creek so they can provide a sustained yield.
Fisheries	- To protect critical habitat areas which are critical for specific fish populations: a) Overwintering and spawning areas for bull trout, brown trout and Rocky Mountain whitefish in Clearwater River; b) Overwintering, spawning and rearing areas for brook trout and brown trout in Alford Creek; c) Overwintering, spawning and rearing areas for brook trout in Moose Creek; d) The Tay River to support bull trout, brook trout and Rocky Mountain whitefish. - To protect the Clearwater River migratory corridor for Rocky Mountain whitefish and bull trout. - To maintain or enhance lakes with fish stocking potential; a) Phyllis Lake; b) Alford Lake; c) Tay Lake.	- To protect critical habitat areas which are critical for specific fish populations: a) Overwintering and spawning areas for cutthroat trout in North Ram River, Ram River and Lynx Creek; b) Spawning and overwintering areas for cutthroat trout, bull trout and Rocky Mountain whitefish in lower reach of Ram River; c) Spawning areas for cutthroat trout in Joyce River, Kiska Creek, Cripple Creek, Pinto Creek and Easy Creek; d) Spawning and overwintering areas for brown and bull trout and Rocky Mountain whitefish in Elk Creek; e) Overwintering areas for bull trout, brook trout, brown trout and Rocky Mountain whitefish in central reaches of Clearwater River; f) Spawning and overwintering areas in lower reaches of Clearwater River for bull trout, brook trout, brown trout and Rocky Mountain whitefish; g) Spawning and rearing areas for	- To protect critical habitat areas which are critical for specific fish populations: a) Spawning and rearing areas for bull trout and Rocky Mountain whitefish along Clearwater River and in certain tributaries; b) Springs flowing into upper Clearwater River critical for spawning, rearing and in some cases overwintering of bull trout; c) Spawning and rearing areas for cutthroat trout in Ranger Creek; d) Spawning, rearing and overwintering areas for cutthroat trout in Ram River and smaller tributary streams. e) Spawning areas for cutthroat trout in Onion, Hummingbird and Canary Creeks; f) Spawning and overwintering areas for cutthroat trout in South Ram River. - To maintain and/or increase recreational fisheries opportunities by developing new lakes or enhancing existing lakes with fisheries potential, e.g., Lost Guide Lake.

TABLE 5.2
(continued)

Resource Values	4. Clearwater-Tay Plain-Benchlands	5. Ram-Clearwater Foothills-Benchlands	6. Ram-Clearwater Mountains
Fisheries (continued)		bull trout and brook trout in Cutoff Creek; h) Spawning, rearing and over-wintering areas for brook trout in Moose Creek; i) Rocky and Peppers Creeks for bull trout; j) Limestone Creek for bull trout and mountain whitefish; k) Fall Creek for mountain whitefish, bull trout and cutthroat trout. - To protect the migratory corridor along Clearwater River for mountain whitefish and bull trout. - To maintain or enhance existing lakes with fish stocking potential, e.g. Peppers Lake. - To maintan and/or increase recreational fisheries opportunities by developing new lakes or ponds, e.g. Elk Creek Pond. - To minimize the impacts of grazing on fish-bearing creeks, specifically Elk and Cutoff Creeks.	
Ecological Resources	- To protect and manage the Clearwater Ricinus Natural Area located at S13 (S/river) in 36-7-W5.	- To protect representative ecological resources at the following proposed location: - a) North Ram-Nice Creek. - To further assess ecological resources this planning unit.	- To further assess ecological resources within this planning unit.
Timber	- To provide and utilize a sustained yield of wood fibre from the proposed Permanent Commercial Forest Land Base (PCFLB) from lands in the Green Area. - To dispose of mature timber stands on public lands in the White Area as demand warrants. - To re-designate current White Area lands with a high capability to produce wood fibre as Green Area lands.	- To provide and utilize a sustained yield of wood fibre from the proposed PCFLB and to utilize intensive forest management practices to improve productivity on those lands within the permanent forest land base with a low fibre production capability. - To maintain a forest environment of high quality. - To provide and utilize wood fibre from outside the proposed PCFLB under sustained yield policies, while supporting policies and guidelines related to other resource values.	- To protect the upper elevation forest resources from major insect, disease and fire damage through established management programs including sanitation and salvage harvesting. - To provide and utilize wood fibre from outside the proposed PCFLB under sustained yield policies, while supporting policies and guidelines related to other resource values.

TABLE 5.2
(continued)

Resource Values	4. Clearwater-Tay Plain-Benchlands	5. Ram-Clearwater Foothills-Benchlands	6. Ram-Clearwater Mountains
Rangeland	- To maintain and increase, where possible, the grazing land base and stocking rate through improved grazing (brush and aspen clearing) and unimproved grazing. - To maintain and develop additional land base for improved grazing in those areas with recognized high and moderate potential, particularly if located adjacent to or near patent land.	- To maintain and increase, where possible, the grazing land base and stocking rate through improved grazing (brush clearing) and unimproved grazing.	- To monitor and manage the equestrian use in this back-country unit.
Tourism	- To encourage the provision of services for travellers wishing to tour or participate in recreation activities along the Clearwater River.	- To provide increased scenic touring experiences along the Forestry Trunk Road. - To maintain access along the traditional route into Onion Lake for recreational activities. - To encourage continued use of the Ram Falls area including viewing of Ram Falls.	

The Critical Wildlife Zone has been altered substantially in this planning unit to recognize fisheries and wildlife values. A Special Use Zone has been added for the Clearwater-Ricinus Natural Area. The General Recreation Zone at Phyllis Lake has been eliminated as this area does not constitute a significant focus for intensive or extensive recreation activities. The Multiple Use Zone has been altered in concert with other zone refinements and mapping of the patent lands. The Agriculture Zone east of Phyllis Lake has been removed as this parcel does not lend itself to significant agricultural activity. The tracts which have been zoned as Agriculture are suitable for improved grazing. The Industrial Zone (30 in 35-8-W5) has been reduced to the lease area (LSD11 of NW 30 in 35-8-W5) of a large capacity gas plant.

6.2.2 Ram-Clearwater Foothills - Benchlands (Planning Unit #5)

The summarized management intent for the Ram-Clearwater Foothills-Benchlands Planning Unit is:

> To provide a range of multiple use activities, particularly recreation opportunities, regulated to prevent adverse environmental impacts on the watershed, fisheries, ecological resources and, in particular, the significant wildlife resources.

The revised zoning and existing zoning (1977) are shown on Figures 6 and 7 (map pocket).

The eastern edge of the Prime Protection Zone, which corresponds to the western edge of this planning unit, has been adjusted to meet Ecological Land Classification criteria. Significant revisions to the Critical Wildlife Zone have been made to better reflect the significant fisheries and wildlife values in this planning unit. The General Recreation Zones at Peppers Lake, west of Ram Falls and along the North Ram River have been reduced to the areas of concentrated activities and more appropriate physical features. The General Recreation Zones around Joyce River and Kiska Creek have been replaced, mainly with the Critical Wildlife Zone.

The Multiple Use Zone has been adjusted to reflect timber values and changes to other zones. The Facility Zone at Ram Falls has been split—the portion north of the Ram River remains as Facility Zone. The area south of the river is now designated as General Recreation Zone.

6.2.3 Ram-Clearwater Mountains (Planning Unit #6)

The summarized management intent for the Ram-Clearwater Mountains Planning Unit is:

> To protect the environmentally sensitive watershed, wildlife and ecological resources while providing the opportunity for high quality back country recreation experiences.

The revised zoning and existing (1977) zoning are shown on Figures 6 and 7 (map pocket).

This planning unit consists mainly of Prime Protection Zone. This zone's eastern boundary has been adjusted to fit Ecological Land Classification criteria. The General Recreation Zone west of Ram River ends at the mouth of Canary Creek. The remaining parcel of General Recreation Zone has been adjusted to include appropriate physical features and a commercial trail ride base camp.

6.3 Chungo - Cline - Nordegg Map Sheet

The most northern (and western) map sheet of the Nordegg-Red Deer River planning area is Chungo - Cline - Nordegg. Its area of 4080 km^2 includes Abraham Lake, Cline and Bighorn Rivers, portions of the Saskatchewan, Blackstone and Brazeau Rivers, and their tributaries.

Planning units #7, #9 and #10 contain mainly Alpine and Subalpine ecoregion components with intrusions of Boreal Uplands along the lower slopes and valleys. These planning units are the Whiterabbit Mountains, Cline-Job-Coral Mountains and Bighorn Mountains, respectively.

Planning unit #8, the Saskatchewan Mountains-Montane, contains a significant Montane ecoregion component, the Kootenay Plains and related features. This river valley feature grades into Boreal Uplands, Subalpine, then Alpine ecoregion components adjacent to the Siffleur Wilderness Area. Planning unit #11, Saskatchewan-Shunda Foothills, consists mainly of the Boreal Uplands ecoregion, with a minor Subalpine ecoregion component - Kiska Tower, the southern tip of the Bighorn Range and along the Brazeau Range. Planning unit #12, Chungo-Wapiabi Foothills-Mountains, contains Boreal Uplands (east of the Bighorn Range) Subalpine (west of the Bighorn Range and the lower slopes of the Bighorn Range) and Alpine components (exposed rock peaks in the Bighorn Range).

There is no patent land nor areas outside the Eastern Slopes in this map sheet. The hamlet of Nordegg is located at the junction of Highway 11 (David Thompson Highway) and the Forestry Trunk Road, the two major access roads in this area. Highway 11 provides easy access to this area for residents and visitors travelling from Rocky Mountain House and, via Highway 93 (Icefields Parkway), from Jasper, Lake Louise and Banff. Tourist facilities are found at Nordegg, Bighorn Indian Reserve and Cline River; a limited number of institutional camps and facilities also exist within the vicinity of Nordegg.

The broad resource objectives listed in section 5 generally apply to all planning units. The resource management objectives specific to Chungo-Cline-Nordegg map sheet are summarized in two tables: planning units #7, 8 and 9 in Table 5.3(A) and planning units #10, 11 and 12 in Table 5.3(B). Collectively, section 5 and Tables 5.3(A) and 5.3(B) contain the objectives which reflect the resource values present in this map sheet and its component planning units.

6.3.1 Whiterabbit Mountains (Planning Unit #7)

The general management intent for the Whiterabbit Mountains Planning Unit is:

> To protect the environmentally sensitive watershed, wildlife and ecological resources while providing the opportunity for high quality back country experiences.

TABLE 5.3(A)

CHUNGO-CLINE-NORDEGG RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
(BY PLANNING UNIT)*

Resource Values	7. Whiterabbit Mountains	8. Saskatchewan Mountains-Montane	9. Cline-Job-Coral Mountains
Water and Watershed	- To maintain the high water yield and high water quality of this unit and to provide more intensive management of recreational use in highly sensitive areas (i.e., alpine meadows) to minimize terrain damage.	- To maintain water quality by managing recreational developments and use in a manner consistent with watershed management objectives.	- To maintain the high water yield and high water quality of this unit and to provide more intensive management of recreational use in highly sensitive areas (i.e., alpine meadows) in order to minimize terrain damage.
Recreation	- To provide back-country recreation opportunities with the major emphasis on non-motorized traversing activities in the Whiterabbit Creek Drainage.	- To provide and manage a variety of primarily non-motorized outdoor recreation opportunities and facilities in the North Saskatchewan River and David Thompson Highway corridor recognizing the special management constraints associated with the Kootenay Plains area.	- To provide and more intensively manage the high quality back-country, non-motorized recreation opportunities in this scenic mountain unit with public use having priority. - To ensure the maintenance of the unit's exceptional scenic resources and wild-land character of the excellent back-country recreation resources now being utilized for both public and commercial non-motorized recreation uses.
Wildlife	- To retain the wilderness character and species in this unit, particularly grizzly bears and Bighorn sheep.	- To maintain elk winter ranges along the North Saskatchewan River. - To maintain sheep herds at Windy and Whirlpool Points for non-consumptive users. - To maintain ungulate migratory routes particularly along the Cline River.	- To increase the goat and caribou populations until they will support a sustained yield. - To maintain the wilderness character and species in this unit by regulating access. - To maintain and improve the critical elk winter ranges on Coral Creek, Job Creek and the Brazeau River. - To encourage the return of mountain caribou to this unit from the White Goat Wilderness.
Fisheries	- To maintain bull trout in Whiterabbit Creek.	- To protect habitat areas which are critical for specific fish populations: a) Rocky Mountain whitefish and bull trout in North Saskatchewan River; b) Rocky Mountain whitefish and bull trout present in lower Whiterabbit Creek and Siffleur River.	- To protect habitat areas which are critical for specific fish populations: a) Critical spawning areas for bull trout in headwaters of Cline River River and Entry Creek;

* Note that the broad resource management objectives found in Section 5 also apply to each planning unit.

TABLE 5.3(A)
(continued)

Resource Values	7. Whiterabbit Mountains	8. Saskatchewan Mountains-Montane	9. Cline-Job-Coral Mountains
Fisheries (continued)			b) Rearing and overwintering areas along Cline River; c) Spawning areas for cutthroat trout in Job Lake; d) Spawning and rearing areas for bull trout in tributaries to Brazeau River. - To maintain and/or increase recreational fisheries opportunities: a) At existing lakes: -- Job Lake; -- Coral Lake; -- Pinto Lake; -- Lake of the Falls; b) By developing new lakes. - To maintain or enhance lakes with fish stocking potential: a) Landslide Lake; b) Michelle Lake; c) Obstruction Lake.
Ecological Resources		- To recognize, protect and manage the representative and unique ecological resources of the candidate Ecological Reserve known as the Kootenay Plains. (See Figure 6) - To control and mitigate trespass grazing and indiscriminate recreational uses. - To protect other known ecological resources within this planning unit.	- To protect known ecological resources within this planning unit.
Timber	- To protect the upper elevation forest resources from major insect and disease infestations or fire damage through established management programs, including sanitary and salvage harvesting.	- To manage the forest resources with emphasis on protection from insects, disease and fire damage through established programs, including sanitation and salvage harvesting.	- To protect the forest resources from major insect, disease or fire damage through established management programs, including sanitation and salvage harvesting.
Rangeland	- To monitor and manage the equestrian use in this back-country unit.	- To monitor and manage the equestrian use in this back-country unit.	- To monitor and manage the equestrian use in this back-country unit.
Tourism		- To encourage limited additional commercial tourism opportunities and services, while maintaining the environmental and aesthetic qualities of this planning unit.	

TABLE 5.3(B)

CHUNGO-CLINE-NORDEGG RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
(BY PLANNING UNIT)*

Resource Values	10. Bighorn Mountains	11. Saskatchewan-Shunda Foothills	12. Chungo-Wapiabi Foothills-Mountains
Water and Watershed	- To maintain the high water yield and high water quality of this unit and to provide more intensive management of recreational use in highly sensitive areas (i.e., alpine meadows) to minimize terrain damage.	- To maintain water quality in this unit (which has a moderate to high sensitivity) and to particularly maintain the value of the Shunda Creek, as a recreational fishery, and its watershed (with an overall high sensitive). - To manage this unit by: a) Minimizing stream crossings; b) Ensuring that future developments (i.e., townsite expansion, sewage disposal and coal development) do not impair the quality, quantity and timing of water resources; c) Confining land use activities to winter in the significant areas of poor drainage; d) Monitoring the effects of land use activities on water quality, quantity and timing and providing corrective action where these values are impaired.	- To monitor and manage the effects of land use activities in this unit, parts of which are highly sensitive to disturbance, to maintain water quality. - To restrict land use activities to winter in areas of high erodability and poor drainage. - To maintain the water producing and recreational fishery values of this unit (which has a moderate to high sensitivity). - To minimize stream crossings and utilize existing access wherever possible. - To plan, construct and maintain roads and other disturbances in a manner that will minimize negative impacts on water quality. - To manage forest harvesting, where feasible, in a manner that will improve water yields. - To monitor the effects of land use activities and possible increased yields on water quality, quantity and timing and to provide corrective action where these values are impaired.
Recreation	- To manage the high quality assessible back-country recreation resources of this unit for traversing and camping activities in conjunction with management objectives for the more intensively used adjacent planning units (#8 and #11).	- To provide and manage the diverse outdoor recreation opportunities present in this central, heavily utilized planning unit with particular emphasis on: a) Recreation opportunities on and adjacent to the North Saskatchewan River; b) existing/potential dispersed recreation activities pursued adjacent to or staged from Highway 11 or the Forestry Trunk Road; c) the variety of recreation opportunities available in the scenic lower Bighorn River Valley;	- To maintain and manage the high quality back-country recreation activities available in the portion of the unit west of the Bighorn Range, with emphasis on hiking, equestrian (public and commercial) and snowmobile activities. - To provide a variety of outdoor recreation activities/facilities in that part of the unit east of the Bighorn Range, with emphasis on current access corridors (i.e., Forestry Trunk Road and Chungo Road) and to ensure that proposed timber harvesting increases are integrated with existing and potential recreation use areas.

* Note that the broad resource management objectives found in Section 5 also apply to each planning unit.

TABLE 5.3(B)
(continued)

Resource Values	10. Bighorn Mountains	11. Saskatchewan-Shunda Foothills	12. Chungo-Wapiabi Foothills-Mountains
Recreation (continued)		d) Back-country recreation opportunities available in the Allstones Lake/Tershishner Creek area, the Gap Lake/Jock Lake Upland area and the Crooked Creek/Kidd Creek area; e) Increased pressures generated by development in the Nordegg area.	
Wildlife	- To retain the wilderness character and species of this unit by regulating access. - To increase the Rocky Mountain goat herd until it will provide a sustained yield.	- To maintain the elk herd wintering in the Nordegg townsite vicinity for non-consumptive users. - To maintain a Bighorn sheep herd on Shunda Mountain for non-consumptive viewers. - To maintain grizzly bears south of the North Saskatchewan River. - To improve critical elk winter ranges on Sunkay Creek and the north bank of the North Saskatchewan River. - To increase the introduced mountain goat herd on the Brazeau Range until it will provide a sustained yield. - To minimize bear depredation problems at high density recreation sites, the Stoney Indian Reserve, the Nordegg dump and townsite without decimating the bear population.	- To retain the wilderness character and species west of the Bighorn Range by regulating mechanized travel. - To maintain and improve critical elk winter ranges on George Creek, Smith Creek, Wapiabi Creek, Nelson Flat and Brown Creek. - To increase the elk population with relocated animals where possible. - To relocate problem grizzly bears into the western portion of this unit.
Fisheries	- This planning unit is presently void of fish due to barriers on Bighorn River. Cutthroat trout were introduced into Saskatchewan-Shunda Foothills planning unit and will probably establish themselves in this unit (Bighorn Mountains).	- To protect critical habitat areas which are critical for specific fish populations: a) Spawning areas for brook trout, brown trout and Rocky Mountain whitefish on Shunda Creek; b) Spawning areas for brook trout in Crooked Creek. - To protect habitat areas critical to specific fish populations: a) Rocky Mountain whitefish and bull trout in lower Bighorn River; b) Bull and brook trout in Haven Creek; c) Rocky Mountain whitefish, bull trout, brook trout and cutthroat trout in North Saskatchewan River; d) Cutthroat trout introduced into Bighorn River and Sunkay Creek.	- To protect critical habitat areas which are critical for specific fish populations: a) Spawning, rearing and over-wintering areas for bull trout and Rocky Mountain whitefish in Wapiabi Creek, tributaries to Wapiabi Creek, Mons Creek and tributaries, George Creek, Blackstone River, Chungo Creek, Brown Creek and tributaries and lower reaches of Moosehound Creek; b) Spawning, rearing and overwintering of bull trout, brook trout and Rocky Mountain whitefish in Sturrock Creek.

TABLE 5.3(B)
(continued)

Resource Values	10. Bighorn Mountains	11. Saskatchewan-Shunda Foothills	12. Chungo-Wapiabi Foothills-Mountains
Fisheries (continued)		- To protect migratory corridors for specific fish species, in particular the North Saskatchewan River. - To minimize the negative effects of river fluctuation on fish populations along the North Saskatchewan River. - To maintain or enhance lakes with fish stocking potential: a) Allstone Lake; b) Goldeye Lake; c) Gap Lake; d) Fish Lake.	- To maintain and/or increase recreational fishing opportunities: a) Cutthroat trout have been introduced into Chungo and Brown Creeks, Blackstone River and Wapiabi Creek; b) By developing new lakes.
Ecological Resources			- To protect known ecological resources within this planning unit.
Timber	- To protect the limited forest resources from major disease, insect or fire outbreaks through established management programs, including sanitation and salvage harvesting.	- To provide and utilize wood fibre from the proposed Permanent Commercial Forest Land Base (PCFLB) under sustained yield policies while maintaining a forest environment of high quality. - To provide and utilize wood fibre from outside the proposed PCFLB under sustained yield policies, while supporting policies and guidelines related to other resource values.	- To provide and utilize wood fibre from from the Proposed PCFLB under sustained yield policies, while maintaining a forest environment of high quality. - To provide and utilize wood fibre from outside the proposed PCFLB under sustained yield policies, while supporting policies and guidelines related to other resource values.
Rangeland	- To monitor and manage the equestrian use in this back-country planning unit.	- To create grazing opportunities where potential, land capability and demand warrant it. - To monitor and manage feral horse use within this unit. - To monitor and manage the equestrian use in the back-country.	- To create grazing opportunities where potential, land capability and demand warrant i. - To monitor and manage feral horses.
Tourism		- To recognize the tourism potential of and maintain access to Crescent Falls on the Bighorn River. - To encourage the use of the Forestry Trunk Road and Highway 11 as touring routes. - To encourage the provision of access to the North Saskatchewan River for water-based recreation. - To encourage the further development of tourism services in the vicinity of Nordegg to enhance its role as a tourism service center.	
Settlement		- To provide for orderly community development in the vicinity of the existing Nordegg townsite.	

The revised zoning is shown on Figure 8, Chungo-Cline-Nordegg Map Sheet: Resource Management Policy. Figure 9, Chungo-Cline-Nordegg: Existing Eastern Slopes Zoning (1977) is included at the same scale for comparison.

This planning unit consists almost entirely of Prime Protection Zone. The Prime Protection Zone has been extended slightly in the northern tip of this planning unit to conform with Ecological Land Classification criteria.

6.3.2 Saskatchewan Mountains - Montage (Planning Unit #8)

The general management intent for the Saskatchewan Mountains-Montane Planning Unit is:

> To protect the ecological resource values of the Kootenay Plains while providing for a range of integrated resource uses with a recreation emphasis along the David Thompson Highway.

Refer to Figures 8 and 9 (map pocket) for the revised zoning and existing (1977) zoning respectively.

The Prime Protection Zone/General Recreation Zone interface north and west of Highway 11 was revised on the basis of Ecological Land Classification analysis. The existing boundary of Prime Protection Zone/General Recreation Zone south of the river was

retained up to the candidate Kootenay Plains Ecological Reserve, which was designated as Special Use Zone. Another Special Use Zone, in two parcels, was designated for the proposed Gravesite Exchange Lands, as per registered plan #772-2842. The Facility Zone which includes the David Thompson Resort remains unchanged.

6.3.3 Cline-Job-Coral Mountains (Planning Unit #9)

The general resource management intent for the Cline-Job-Coral Mountains Planning Unit is:

> To provide the opportunity for dispersed back country experiences while protecting the environmentally sensitive watershed, wildlife, fisheries and ecological resources, in particular the high mountain lakes.

Refer to Figures 8 and 9 (map pocket) for the revised and existing (1977) zoning respectively.

This planning unit is dominated by the Prime Protection Zone. There are minor components of Critical Wildlife Zone (north of Tarpeian Rock), Special Use Zone (edge of Gravesite Exchange Lands) and General Recreation Zone (site of the proposed Cline River Resort). The Prime Protection Zone has been reduced slightly in the northern tip of the planning unit and somewhat enlarged in the southern portion of the planning unit.

6.3.4 Bighorn Mountains (Planning Unit #10)

The general resource management intent for the Bighorn Mountains Planning Unit is:

> To protect the environmentally sensitive watershed, wildlife and ecological resources while providing the opportunity for high quality back country recreation experiences.

This planning unit is also dominated by Prime Protection Zone. (See Figures 8 and 9.) The effect of the Ecological Land Classification determined zone boundary is to enlarge the Prime Protection Zone somewhat. There are minor components of Critical Wildlife and Multiple Use Zones (Sunkay Creek area) and General Recreation Zone (Allstones Creek area).

6.3.5 Saskatchewan-Shunda Foothills (Planning Unit #11)

The general resource management intent for the Saskatchewan-Shunda Foothills Planning Unit is:

> To provide a focus for more intensive multiple use activities with a recreation emphasis along the two major road corridors and in the vicinity of Nordegg while maintaining watershed, wildlife and fisheries values, in particular Shunda Creek.

Refer to Figures 8 and 9 (map pocket) for the revised and existing (1977) zoning respectively.

The western edge of the planning unit overlaps with the Prime Protection Zone, which was refined by Ecological Land Classification analysis. Several adjustments of the Critical Wildlife Zone/General Recreation Zone/Multiple Use Zone complex were facilitated on the basis of Ecological Land Classification analysis and other data inputs. The results were: (1) the replacement of General Recreation Zone along Shunda Creek and its major tributaries with Critical Wildlife Zone to reflect fisheries and wildlife values, (2) extending Critical Wildlife Zone over the north edge (south facing slopes and terraces) and islands of the North Saskatchewan River and reducing the Critical Wildlife Zone along the Brazeau Range, (3) extending the General Recreation Zone from the Bighorn Dam along the south edge of the North Saskatchewan River to the parking area east of the Forestry Trunk Road, (4) refining the General Recreation Zone along the Bighorn River to more appropriate physical features east of Crescent Falls and to the north side of the river west of Crescent Falls to Sunkay Creek, (5) replacing most of the General Recreation Zone along Tershishner with Critical Zone and Multiple Use Zone, (6) replacing the General Recreation Zone at Gap Lake with a Critical Wildlife Zone (for wildlife and fisheries purposes), and (7) replacing the General Recreation Zone south of the Bighorn Indian Reserve and west of the

the river with Multiple Use Zone as this area does not, at present or in the perceivable future, act as a focus for recreation activities. The Industrial Zone around the Bighorn Dam has been reduced to the actual size of lease. The Facility Zone at the junction of the Forestry Trunk Road and David Thompson Highway has been reduced to the actual townsite area for the present time. (Additional studies are being conducted which may alter this area's zoning before the plan is completed).

6.3.6 Chungo-Wapiabi Foothills-Mountains (Planning Unit #12)

The general resource management intents for the Chungo-Wapiabi Foothills-Mountains Planning Unit are:

To protect the environmentally sensitive watershed, wildlife and ecological resources west of the Bighorn Range while providing the opportunity for quality back country recreation experiences, and

To provide for a range of multiple use activities east of the Bighorn Range regulated to protect environmentally sensitive watershed, wildlife and fisheries resource values.

Figure 8, Chungo-Cline-Nordegg: Resource Management Policy (map pocket) describes the revised zoning.

Figure 9, Chungo-Cline-Nordegg: Existing Eastern Slopes Zoning (1977), is included for comparison.

The Prime Protection Zone boundary along the First Range was adjusted according to Ecological Land Classification analysis. Several corridors of Critical Wildlife Zone were adopted along the major river corridors to reflect wildlife and fisheries values. The General Recreation Zone at the Brazeau River was removed as the existing Alberta Forest Service campsite does not constitute a significant focus for recreational activities and expansion is physically difficult. (This revision is also in accordance with the Brazeau-Pembina planning area, which included a portion of this General Recreation Zone.)

7. CONCLUSION

The Resource Management Policy is an intermediate document in the planning process. Establishing a refined direction for the planning team, this document also acts as an interim statement of the progress made towards the final plan.

The draft plan will include further refinement of the resource management objectives, development of resource management guidelines and discussion of implementation and review mechanisms for the plan.